

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/772,887

Applicant(s)

CHIAM ET AL.

Examiner

PIERRE-LOUIS DESIR

Art Unit

2617

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 11 September 2008 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: 1-26.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.

/Pierre-Louis Desir/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Dwayne D. Bost/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

Continuation of 11, does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicants argue that neither Yamadera nor Landers teaches a two-dimensional navigational key configured as a single button including four sets of contact points, wherein the two-dimensional key is configured to select and perform an action corresponding to one of a plurality of sub-menu items of a sub-menu. Examiner respectfully disagrees. As described previously, Yamadera does disclose a two dimensional key (Figure 1, element 4). Landers, on the other hand Landers disclose a navigation routine stored in memory can be invoked to change the functionality. For example, pressing a down arrow (or another arrow) when the point of focus is on the last menu in a set of menus can move the point of focus to an item in that last menu. In contrast, pressing the same key or arrow when the point of focus is on a menu other than the last menu will simply move the point of focus to another menu (i.e., to another menu at the same hierarchical level). (Explicitly selecting a menu without a navigation routine as described is typically done by pressing a soft key with an appropriate label. For example, a user could scroll to a widget labeled "Buddy List" and then press a soft key labeled "ok"). In contrast to existing user interfaces, the exemplary system allows users to simply continue to scroll down once the Buddy List menu (if it is the last menu) is reached to move the point of focus to successive "buddies" in the Buddy List menu. Therefore, Landers discloses that both a menu and sub-menu items can be selected and indicated action may be performed on the selected item using the navigation key. Col. 2, line 64-col. 3, line 19.

As can be seen above, one skilled in the art would unhesitatingly conceptualize that the navigation key, disclosed by Landers, may be utilized to select both a menu and sub-menu items, wherein indicated action may be performed on the selected item using the navigation key.

Examiner respectfully reminds applicants that broadly written claims are broadly interpreted by examiner. As such, the combination of Yamadera and Landers reads on the claims as written.